

**A TRIBUTE TO MS. OLAKUNLE OLUDINA, A WINNER OF THE DELAWARE MINORITY BUSINESS ADVOCATE AWARD**

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 1, 2003*

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Olakunle Oludina, winner of the Delaware Minority Business Advocate Award. Ms. Oludina earned this honor through her work at the YMCA of New Castle County.

As you know, advocates for minorities in business have always been extremely important to the economic vitality of each State and to our national economy. In her work, Olakunle Oludina develops and implements training and education programs for entrepreneurs, thus helping to energize Delaware's small business community.

Throughout my years in public service I have consistently counted Delaware's minority run organizations to be amongst the very best in the country, and recognition of Ms. Oludina further confirms my belief.

Olakunle Oludina's accomplishments and innovative leadership in the community have placed the YMCA of New Castle County in a position to rise above and meet the challenges of the future; I commend her on her receipt of this award and I look forward to Ms. Oludina's continued success.

**RECOGNIZING TAIWAN FOR ITS HANDLING OF SARS**

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 1, 2003*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Taiwan for its efforts in effectively addressing the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). Taiwan has done an admirable job of dealing with this new, global, and fatal disease.

Taiwan's response to SARS has far outpaced many of its neighbors in that region of the world. It has been forthright about the problem and has worked with the international community to stem the spread of this deadly disease.

Quoting Dr. Scott Dowell, Director of the International Emerging Infections Program in Thailand, Center for Disease and Control and Prevention, "the health authorities in Taiwan were taking unprecedented measures to respond to the outbreak, and we thought that they were doing a very good job. . . . They were quite capable in doing that in Taiwan, and we were encouraged by the lack of transmission to healthcare workers during the first weeks we were there."

Even more remarkable is that Taiwan has responded so effectively to this global problem without being a member of the World Health Organization (WHO). Because of its lack of statehood, Taiwan, home to nearly 24 million people, has been denied membership status in the organization. This made it even more difficult for health experts to gather important information about SARS on the island and highlights the need for Taiwan to receive observer status at the WHO.

In a relatively short period of time, SARS has shown that it knows no borders. When infecting people, this disease does not stop at man-made borders. Thus, I would call on the World Health Organization and its members to grant observer status to Taiwan so that they can be properly integrated into the global health network. The SARS outbreak is a stark reminder of the importance of working with the entire international community in finding solutions to global problems like the spread of disease. Failing to do so prolongs the problem and puts more people at risk.

Mr. Speaker, the leaders of Taiwan have worked hard on their own and with the international community to detect and treat SARS. As such, its leaders are worthy of receiving our recognition today.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO STEGALL FAMILY IN CORINTH, TX**

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 1, 2003*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my sincere congratulations to the Stegall Family in Corinth, Texas and their entire staff at the American Eagle Harley-Davidson/Buell Dealership. They celebrate one year of successful sales and customer service in the Denton County area with a team of dedicated and diligent employees.

The community of motorcyclist enthusiasts in North Texas are also to be commended for supporting local businesses, contributing to the success of American Eagle. This developing relationship not only benefits the motorcycle industry, it also cultivates the economy of Denton County, which continues to develop with the expansion of commerce across North Texas.

Once more, I articulate my best wishes to American Eagle. May their efforts continue to be rewarded.

**ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH**

**HON. DAVID WU**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 1, 2003*

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, I rise on this first day of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month to honor our Nation's Asian Pacific American community. This month marks the 25th year that our nation has rightly recognized and celebrated the many contributions and achievements of Asian Pacific Americans.

Mr. Speaker, America draws its strength from its tremendous diversity. The Asian Pacific American community is one of the fastest growing segments of the United States with over 12.5 million people. We have greatly enriched the American landscape, and I am honored to take part in Asian Pacific American Heritage Month by celebrating the many achievements of APAs in American history.

Asian Pacific Americans have made tremendous advances in countless fields such as, politics, medicine, technology, business, music, literature, film, athletics, and agri-

culture. APAs helped build the Transcontinental Railroad and develop the Internet, and APAs have served honorably to defend the United States in times of armed conflict, from the Civil War through today. And, as I speak today, an Asian Pacific American astronaut, Edward Lu, is stationed aboard the International Space Station. As Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, I am proud to recognize these achievements.

The Asian Pacific American community has made these achievements despite the obstacles of past discriminatory laws, such as the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, the Alien Law Act of 1920, and the forced internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. Like so many other segments of America, the APA community has thrived in the face of opposition.

While Asian Pacific Americans as a whole have flourished in the United States, there are still challenges facing certain segments of the APA community today. Many immigrants, refugees, and particular ethnic groups, including Southeast Asians and Pacific Islanders, are still working to achieve the American dream. We must not forget those who are struggling to overcome obstacles, including language and cultural barriers, as well as the discrimination that still exists today.

Mr. Speaker, the Asian Pacific American community is itself a diverse group of people with distinct languages and cultures. Therefore, I cannot stress enough the importance of improving our data collection on APAs. Today, Government data tends to lump various Asian Pacific Americans together in a single category. Better data will allow us to recognize the diversity and distinct cultures of the many communities that make up the Asian Pacific American community as a whole. This knowledge will allow the United States to better address the different needs of what is a very diverse community; so that all Americans have the same opportunity to attain the American dream.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to encourage Congress and the American people to spend the month of May learning about the legacy, culture, rich traditions, and achievements of the Asian Pacific American Community.

**A TRIBUTE TO MS. SALLY HAWKINS, WINNER OF THE DELAWARE SMALL BUSINESS JOURNALIST AWARD**

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 1, 2003*

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Sally Hawkins- winner of the Delaware Small Business Journalist Award. Ms. Hawkins earned this honor through her work as owner and President of the WILM-AM radio station.

As you know, small businesses have always been extremely important to the economic vitality of each State and to our national economy. Small businesses account for the majority of all new jobs being created daily, and provide opportunities for millions of people to earn a living and provide financial stability for their families. Through her work, Sally has distinguished herself as an outstanding leader in small business and journalism.